

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

International Application No. : PCT/FR01/02527
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Priority Date(s) Claimed : 4 AUGUST 2000
Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US) : MAGNE, Vincent

Title: METHOD FOR PREPARING PHOSPHORUS PENTOXIDE POWDER WITH
ENHANCED FLUIDITY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to calculating the national fee, and prior to examination in the National Phase of the
above-identified International application, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.(Amended) A process for the preparation of hexagonal phosphorus pentoxide powder with
improved flowability, comprising subjecting said phosphorus pentoxide powder to sufficient
mechanical stirring at 15 - 30°C under a dry gas atmosphere for a period of time ranging from 5
minutes to 30 minutes to deagglomerate the powder.

2. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mechanical stirring time is between 10
and 20 minutes.

3.(Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the stirring is conducted in a plowshare
mixer rotating at a stirring rate of from 100 rev/min to 350 rev/min.

4.(Amended) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the stirring rate is between 150 rev/min and 300 rev/min.

5.(Amended) The process of claim 1, conducted at ambient temperature.

6.(Amended) A phosphorus pentoxide powder obtained by the process of claim 7, exhibiting a Hausner ratio H_r , defined as being the ratio of the tamped apparent density d_t to the aerated apparent density d_a , of equal to or less than 1.25.

Please add the following new claim 7:

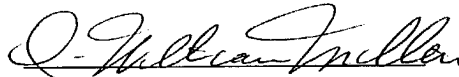
--7. A process according to claim 1, wherein the resultant deagglomerated powder exhibits a Hausner ratio H_r , defined as being the ratio of the tamped apparent density d_t to the aerated apparent density d_a , of equal to or less than 1.25.--

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependent claims in order to avoid the additional fee. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1 - 6 were amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a hexagonal phosphorus pentoxide ~~(hexagonal variety)~~ powder with improved flowability, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising subjecting said phosphorus pentoxide powder ~~is subjected to~~ to sufficient mechanical stirring ~~by the dry route at ambient temperature~~ 15 - 30°C under a dry gas atmosphere for a period of time ranging from 5 minutes to 30 minutes to deagglomerate the powder.
2. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mechanical stirring time is between 10 and ~~20 minutes~~ 20 minutes.
3. (Amended) The process as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, ~~characterized in that~~ the claim 1, wherein the stirring is conducted in a plowshare mixer rotating at a stirring rate of the device used ~~for carrying out the process ranges~~ from 100 rev/min to 350 rev/min.
4. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the stirring rate is between 150 rev/min and 300 rev/min.
5. (Amended) The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, ~~characterized in that it is carried out at a temperature ranging from 15 to 30°C.~~ claim 1, conducted at ambient temperature.
6. (Amended) A phosphorus pentoxide ~~(hexagonal variety)~~ powder obtained as claimed in one by the process of claims ~~1 to 5~~ 7, exhibiting a Hausner ratio Hr, defined as being the ratio of the tamped apparent density d_t to the aerated apparent density d_a , of equal to or less than 1.25.

Claim 7 is new and therefore no marked up version is necessary.